Sleepy Wellow Johnson

AND THEY GREW IN WISDOM

## CHAPTER SIX

## .. And They Grew in Wisdom

competitors to the will and determination of Provo Valley's pioneers. Wilderness country and the bitter forces of nature were puny

the assurance that their children would live better than they did. struggle and persevere against all odds. For many of the people the better life came only after years of toil and sorrow. For others it came in Valley. Yet the "vision" of a better life inspired the early settlers to Adversity, mistortune. grief-these were everyday words in Provo

or two room log school houses was a far cry from the modern educational To assure this better life for the new generation, the pioneer people were quick to establish schools in their new valley. Education in the one programs of today. However, it was a beginning and a firm foundation

the same room under the guidance of one teacher. erasers. The various grades, or readers as they were known, all met in rigid support. They wrote on stone slabs and used damp cloths for ported by wooden legs inserted at a suitable angle in the logs to insure In the early schools, students sat on benches made of split logs sup-

attended only one term, consisting of about six weeks, since their help was needed on the farms and in the canyons. was paid either in cash or produce though most often the latter. Many Tuition for the schools amounted to about \$1.50 per term, which

as a Church house, school building, dance hall and theatre. located on what is now the corner of 3rd North and 2nd West, served erected for the July 24th Pioneer Day celebration in 1860. The structure. The valley's first school was held in the joint community building

ditches for water. a little one room log school house to sit on slab benches while Simon Higstudents laid down their slates and Wilson readers and ran to nearby genbotham instructed them in reading, writing and arithmetic. Thirty cation offered is a description given by Henry Van Wagoner in 1933 to Dorothy Holmes. He told of children of all ages in Midway filing into that sprang up throughout the valley. Typical of the rudimentary edu-Small schools were quickly developed in each of the communities

the Deer Creek Reservoir and one in the upper area near the present two more were in Charleston-one near the mound now extending into established. Two were maintained in the Center-Lake Creek area, while Winterton ranches. Two schools were in the Daniel area, one in the As the valley grew there were 22 independent districts or schools

The Sleepy Hollow School, one of Heber's early school buildings.

other in the valley below. upper section on the hill near the original James J. Howe ranch, and an-

to form the single Midway community. one in the upper and one in the lower settlements before the two joined At least two separate schools were maintained in the Midway area.

one at Riverdale on the corner just north of the Midway road and the intersection of U.S. Highway 40, another near Keetley where the Great Woodland on the south side of the Provo River. Lakes Lumber operation later stood, and the third at Bench Creek above In the area north of Heber, three one-room schools were located

Ward Chapel. "Rose Hill" and one on the grounds now occupied by the Wallsburg Wallsburg likewise had a school in the upper valley area known as

tory in personal journals, lists the following as some of these teachers: and "figure" were used to teach some of the school subjects. John W. Crook. who like his father, John Crook, preserved much of the early his-In these early schools, young people with the ability to read, write

Hicken and Heber Moulton. George Barzee, Margion G. and Charles Shelton, Henry Clegg, Henry Aird. Alfred T. Bond, William Buys, Josephine Cluff, Isabelle Todd Kezia Carroll, Mary Clyde Willis, Thomas Hicken, Jr., Samuel Wing, William Chatwin, Henry Chatwin, C. B. Nugent, David L. Murdoch,

Others mentioned in the journals who were "imported" or profes-